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O/CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

87-3604

19 August 1987

DDA FILE **WH/DDI**

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

FROM:

A/NIO/NESA

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SUBJECT: Conversation with Bob Oakley of the NSC on 19 August 87

Mr. Oakley called this morning to request that the Intelligence Community consider putting together a briefing which could be given to various committees on the Hill (including Intelligence, Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees). The briefing would be in addition to our normal briefings on the situation in the Gulf. Its specific function would be to lay out for the Members some of the ground truths about Iranian objectives and activities over the last year or so and the response of the Arabs and Europeans to those actions, especially how their response may have changed over the last year (i.e., have the Arabs and Europeans become more willing to resist Iranian intimidation?).

Ambassador Oakley was sensitive about not telling us what to say in these briefings and I reinforced that concern to the extent I could. I agreed with him, however, that he could certainly request that we consider giving these briefings and that I would speak to [] and Dick Kerr about this.

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I spoke to both Dan and the DDI on the subject and we agreed that a briefing or an introduction to a briefing which provided a perspective on the current situation would indeed be useful and probably needed by many Members. We also believe, however, that most Congressmen would probably not sit still for a briefing that was entirely a retrospective analysis. Therefore, Mr. Kerr asked that I prepare a background briefing which would probably be primarily used as an introduction for the many other briefings that we can expect to give for as long as the current situation continues

I will prepare talking points and, if appropriate, graphics to meet this guidance. We have some time since Congress is out of Session for several weeks.

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cc: DDI
C/NIC
VC/NIC (Fuller)
VC/NIC (Hutchinson)
NIO/NESA
D/OCA

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